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EXPERIMENTAL STUDY ON CO₂ CAPTURE IN A RESIDENTIAL SPACE

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Abstract

The influence of Spathiphyllum "Sweet Silvio" flowers on indoor air quality (IAQ) and energy savings were studied experimentally in a bedroom, part of a 65 m² three-room apartment, in Braşov, Romania. We used four 14 cm pots of Spathiphyllum "Sweet Silvio" with a total leaf surface of 134.29 cm^2 . The residential space has a low number of air exchange rates because exterior walls are insulated with 5 cm polystyrene, and windows have high-energy efficiency glass in PVC casement. To evaluate indoor air quality, CO₂ levels were considered as the main indicator and relative humidity (RH) as second indicator. Measurements were carried out in a three-week period plus one day in the week four, both during the day and at night. In the same period for one week, we measured also CO₂ concentration in the outside air and results show an average value of 408 ppm. The study was divided into four cases, each with a specific scenario. The results indicate a beneficial effect brought by the flower's presence inside the bedroom, but only if the door is open both day and night, to maximize the number of air exchange rates.

Key words: indoor air quality, CO2 capture, active bio filtration, residential space

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